(ii) who have undergone three months Pre-Sea training at any of the Government approved Training Institutes after production of Identity Cards issued by the Shipping Master, Mumbai/Calcutta/Chennai

* Persons holding permanent Immigration Visas of any country *e.g.* Green Card in USA;

* Persons holding diplomas from recognised institutions like Polytechnics or certificates of vocational training from Governments/recognised institutions. The Diploma/Certificate should be for a minimum duration of two year course;

* Nurses possessing qualifications recognised under the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947;

* Dependent children of parents eligible for ECNR, as above (upto 24 years of age);

* All persons above te age of 60 years;

* All visitors to Pakistan and Bangladesh; and

* All visitors going to any country in Europe (except the Commonwealth of Independent States) or North America, Australia, Japan and New Zealand.

Depiction of "OM" on socks in USA

2018. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that a Rights Group in the U.S.A. has expressed shock and disgust at the use of the Hindu symbol "OM" on the socks in the U.S.A.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been taken up with the concerned authorities for appropriate action; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. In early July 2003,

a U.S. company named 'Gold Medal Hosiery', based in New York, distributed socks bearing the Hindu symbol "OM". The socks also had "Made in South Korea" inscribed on them.

(c) and (d) India Cause, an organisation representing members of the Indian community in the United States of America, promptly took up the matter with M/s. Gold Medal Hosiery. The Chief Executive Officer of the company issued an apology expressing regret at the use of the "OM" symbol. He stressed that his company respected values and traditions of all religions and would never knowingly be disrespectful towards anyone's beliefs. He promised that the company would not repeat the use of the "OM" symbol in any of its products.

Facilities for construction workers

2019. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no proper facilities for the construction workers employed by contractors and even Government agencies like DDA, are provided at the sites in Delhi and other metropolitan cities, as a result of which the areas around the construction sites are used for unhygienic and demeaning purposes by the workers and their families; and

(b) if so, the number of contractors and Government officials apprehended for violating relevant orders during the last three years in Delhi and other metropolitan cities, city-wise and the action taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Implementation of the provisions relating to facilities like drinking water, washing facilities, latrines, urinals, rest rooms etc. as laid down under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 is ensured through inspections by the Implementing Authorities of both the Central and State Governments. By and large the major contractors/ employers are providing these facilities wherever there is sufficient open space. Sometimes they express their inability to provide these facilities due to lack of space at the construction sites.